

## Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- We do our best to answer your phone calls weekday mornings.
- You may be directed to our automated answering service at other times.
- We strive to provide access to the church building during office hours through our callbox in the rear of the church building.
- Please call ahead and inquire about building access if you are coming after 2:00 p.m.

**SCRIPT DEADLINE: for information in the February-March  
Script the deadline is Tuesday, January 15 at noon.**

### WPC Staff

The Reverend Jonathan S. Hauerwas, Pastor      jhauerwas.wpc@gmail.com  
(cell phone 330-606-4551) (office hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Friday, 9:30-11:00 am)  
Alcee Chriss III, Music Director/Organist      wpcmusicdir1250@gmail.com  
(weekly workdays: Friday, Sunday and by appointment)  
Kara Hoffman, Staff Accountant      wpcfinance1250@gmail.com  
(weekly office days: Monday morning, Wednesday, and Thursday)  
Sheila Svoboda, Dir. of Children & Family Ministry      wpcchildren1250@gmail.com  
(weekly office days: Tuesday and Thursday)  
Claudine Schooley, WPC Church Office      wpcoffice1250@gmail.com  
(weekly office days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday)  
Zack Troyer, Director of Adult & Youth Bells, and Children's Choir  
(cell phone 330-285-0213)      wpcchildrenschoir1250@gmail.com  
Traci Range, Director of Childcare      wpcchildcare1250@gmail.com  
(cell phone 330-459-1177)  
Mallory Gray, Youth Coordinator      wpcyouth1250@gmail.com  
(weekly workdays: Monday and Thursday)  
Dave Bodnar, Daytime Custodian      wpcbuilding@gmail.com  
(weekly workdays: Sunday—Thursday)



Westminster Presbyterian Church  
1250 West Exchange Street, Akron, Ohio 44313  
westminsterakron@gmail.com - 330-836-2226  
www.westminsterakron.com



## Westminster Presbyterian Church

come encounter grow serve

1250 W Exchange • Akron, Ohio • westminsterakron.com • 330-836-2226

## Fourth Sunday of Advent December 23, 2018 10:30 a.m. Worship

*At the ringing of the carillon please silence your cell phones and conversations and prepare your hearts and minds for an encounter with the Living God. **Bolded text is read or sung by all.***  
*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

### ***To the parents of our young children***

*Relax! God put the wiggle in children. Don't feel you need to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome. Sit toward the front, where it's easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on. Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, choir, etc. Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you. If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."*

### ***To the members of our congregation***

*The presence of children is a gift to the church, and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing. Please welcome our children, call them by name and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.*

## COME

Voluntary      Symphonie-Passion op. 23: II. Nativité  
Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

In the Bleak Midwinter  
Gustav Holst (1874-1934)  
Westminster Presbyterian Church Bell Choir

Choral Introit     Now Let Every Tongue Adore Thee  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

\*Call to Worship     Luke 1:46-50     Gabby Gray  
Our souls magnify the Lord!  
**Our Spirits rejoice in God our Savior!**  
The mighty One has done great things for us!  
**Holy is God's name!**  
Let us worship God.  
**For God is our Maker and our Redeemer; from  
generation to generation God gives mercy.**

\*Hymn 56     The First Nowell     THE FIRST NOWELL

Lighting of the Advent Candle     Isaiah 11:1-3     Raphael Peoples

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from the roots a Branch  
will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the Spirit of  
wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the  
Spirit of knowledge and reverence for our God...

We light this candle as a sign of our waiting and hope for the coming  
of Christ.

ENCOUNTER

Prayer of Confession     Gabby Gray  
**O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend on us, we pray. Cast  
out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.**

*Silence is observed.*

***Calendar of Church Building Events  
For December 23, 2018—January 1, 2019***

**Sunday, 12/23 Forth Sunday of Advent**  
8:45 am     Child Care Center opens  
9:00 am     Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
9:30 am     Adult Education (Room 106)  
10:30 am     Worship/Volunteers Appreciation Sunday (Sanctuary)  
11:30 am     Coffee and fellowship (WHH)

**Monday, 12/24** Church Office Closed  
4:30 pm     Child Care Center opens  
5:00 pm     Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)

**Tuesday, 12/25 Merry Christmas** Church Office Closed

**Wednesday, 12/26 - Thursday, 12/27 - Friday, 12/28  
and Saturday, 12/29**  
No Activities Planned

**Sunday, 12/30**  
8:45 am     Child Care Center opens  
9:00 am     Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)  
9:30 am     Adult Education (Room 106)  
10:30 am     Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:30 am     Coffee and fellowship (WHH)

**Monday, 12/31** Church Office Closed

**Tuesday, 1/1/19 Happy New Year** Church Office Closed

VISITORS If you are new to Westminster, please pick-up your welcome bag that is in the entrance to the church.

2019 Stewardship

**As of Dec. 16, 2018, 93 households pledged \$290,894 for 2019.** Thank you for your generous gifts. Westminster Presbyterian Church will need Pledges and Contributions totaling \$487,916 to avoid spending Rowley Fund principal on operating expenses in 2019. If you have not already pledged, pledge cards are in the literature racks and are available from the Finance Office. Your pledge plays a vital role in fulfilling our goals. Please give generously!

COME - ENCOUNTER - GROW - SERVE

CHRISTMAS ENVELOPES are located in the pews for your special year-end gifts to Westminster Presbyterian Church. Thank you for sharing your blessings.

WPC GIVING TREE Please donate new gloves, hats, scarves and socks this holiday season to benefit adults and children in the Access Shelter. Place all donations on or under the giving tree in the sanctuary this December.

YEAR-END GIFTS Just a reminder that your year-end gifts must be physically delivered to the Finance Office or postmarked on or before **December 31, 2018** to be included on your 2018 giving statement. The church offices will be closed Saturday, December 29 and Monday, December 31. Contributions received during worship on December 30 will be included on your 2018 giving statement. Thank you for your generous support of Westminster Presbyterian Church during 2018.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT! The last day for Presbyterian Women to earn community cash back for Acme receipts is **December 30**. Please turn in all your receipts to the box in WHH by January 15.

Response 574 Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*  
**Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness Gabby Gray

\*Response 567 Glory Be to the Father *Gloria Patri*  
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

\*Passing the Peace Dean Gable  
Greet both friends and strangers saying,  
**“The peace of Christ be with you.”**

Time for Church Life

*Please sign the friendship pad and pass it to those seated near you. If you are the last person to sign on that page, please tear it out and leave it on the pew for the ushers to pick up after the service.*

Offertory I Saw Three Ships Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

\*Response 592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow *Doxology*  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Time with Young Disciples Sheila Svoboda

After the Time with Young Disciples, 3 through 6 year-olds are invited to the Nursery for age-appropriate activities. Grades K-8 will stay in worship with their family.

GROW

Prayer for Illumination

<i>First Lesson</i>	Genesis 3:8-15	Caden Labbe Old Testament Pg. 3
Carol 1	Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus	STUTTGART
<i>Second Lesson</i>	Genesis 22:15-18	Jensen Ehrler Old Testament Pg. 18
Anthem:	What Child is This?	Martin Shaw (1875-1958)
<i>Third Lesson</i>	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	Dean Gable Old Testament Pg. 638
Carol 29	Go, Tell It on the Mountain	GO TELL IT
<i>Fourth Lesson</i>	Isaiah 11:1-9	Sam Gray Old Testament Pg. 640
Carol 48	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	ES IST EIN' ROS'
<i>Fifth Lesson</i>	Luke 1:26-38	Pierce Ehrler New Testament Pg. 56
Carol 16	The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came	GABRIEL'S MESSAGE
<i>Sixth Lesson</i>	Matthew 1:18-23	Sam Grau New Testament Pg. 1
Anthem: 38	It Came Upon the Midnight Clear	CAROL
<i>Seventh Lesson</i>	Luke 2:8-16 & Lillian Hudson-Largent -	Eleanora Hoffman New Testament Pg. 58
Carol 25	Away in a Manger	MUELLER
<i>Eighth Lesson</i>	Matthew 2:1-11	Liam Hauerwas New Testament Pg. 2
Carol 63	As with Gladness Men of Old	DIX
<i>Ninth Lesson</i>	John 1:1-14	Holden Labbe New Testament Pg. 91
Carol 51	See Amid the Winter's Snow	HUMILITY

Sermon                      Homage                      The Reverend Jon Hauerwas

SERVE

\*Affirmation of Faith  
**After we refused to live in the image of God, Jesus was born of the virgin Mary, sharing our genes and instincts, entering our culture, speaking our language, fulfilling the law of God. Being united in Christ’s humanity, we know ourselves when we rest in him. Come, Lord Jesus: We are open to your Spirit. We await your full presence. Our world finds rest in you.**

Prayers of the People, Silent Reflection and The Lord’s Prayer  
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*Hymn 28                      Good Christians Friends, Rejoice                      IN DULCI JUBILO

\*Charge and Benediction                      2 Peter 3:13-15

Voluntary                      Postlude on “Adeste Fidelis”  
T. Frederick Candlyn (1892-1964)

***Welcome to our worship this morning!***  
*Join us after worship today for coffee and fellowship in Wright-Herberich Hall.*

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES, HYMNALS, CHILDREN’S BIBLES AND ACTIVITY BOXES are available. Please ask an usher.  
USHERS    Dave Stobbs (head usher), Linda Stobbs, Joan Buehl, Barbara Thackeray, Donna Gorrington, Dan Gorrington, and Bill Bramley.